REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application.

Office Action Rejections Summary

Claims 1-31 and 34-37 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Fox et al., Publication of J. of Brazil Soc. Mechanical Sciences (hereinafter "Fox").

Status of Claims

Claims 1-7, 9-37 and 42-45 are pending in the application. No claims have been amended. No claims have been added. No new matter has been added. No claims have been canceled.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-31 and 34-37 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Fox. It is submitted that claim 1 is patentable over Fox. In response to Applicant's arguments, the Office Action states:

> Figure 1 **shows a front end or expert system, which the reference in paragraph 9 states is located on a spacecraft** and is connected to the monitoring operations center by a system such as Altairis, which from footnote 15 on page 331 explains is a satellite system.

(Office Action, 5/19/2005, page 15)(emphasis added)

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner has mischaracterized Fox. Applicant submits that Fox does <u>not</u> state that the Front-End System is located on the spacecraft. The paragraph that the Examiner is referring to and has labeled on the Fox document as paragraph 9 is quoted below.

> If the spacecraft's front-end system is an expert system, like Altairis,[15] the expert system sends SERS an e-mail message depicting the state of the spacecraft

when it determines that an anomalous condition has arisen. In addition, other external processes can automatically e-mail SERS when problems are detected. These currently include weather alerts, along with various processes that monitor the status of the other system hardware and software. Each alert causes a Pass Event Report to be generated and designated SCT personnel to be notified.

(Fox, page 326, paragraph 9).

As can be seen from a closer inspection of the above quoted paragraph 9 of Fox, Fox does not state that the Front-End System shown in Figure 1 of Fox is located on the spacecraft. Rather, this passage of Fox is referring to the **Expert System**, like Altairis. Note that the front-end system of the spacecraft is not illustrated in Figure 1 of Fox.

It is submitted that the Front-End System shown in Figure 1 of Fox is a ground front-end system. In particular, the Spacecraft Emergency Response System (SERS) in Fox monitors ground system log files in a ground front-end system for anomalies, and not the spacecraft system itself. As discussed in paragraph 4 of Fox, "[m]any **ground systems generate log files** for each contact between the ground station and a spacecraft." (Fox, page 326, paragraph 6)(emphasis added). This passage is describing the "Front-End System" box in Figure 1 of Fox which includes a circle containing "Generate Log File." This is also reflected in paragraph 10 of Fox that states "If a mission is not using an expert system as part of its front-end, the SERS REP parses the **log files from ground systems**" which is the Front-End System box shown in Figure 1 of Fox. This clearly establishes that the "Front-End System" of Figure 1 is not located on the spacecraft.

Furthermore, the Altairis Expert System of the spacecraft is not accessed by the SERS ground station to monitor a condition on the spacecraft. Rather, as discussed in paragraph 9 and shown in Figure 1 of Fox, the Altairis Expert System of the **spacecraft sends an email message to the ground based SERS** depicting the state of the spacecraft when it determines that an anomalous condition has arisen.

As such, the spacecraft of Fox is not accessed by the SERS to monitor a condition on the spacecraft. There is no disclosure or teaching in Fox about monitoring the spacecraft directly or any log files located on the spacecraft.

In contrast to Fox, claim 1 includes the limitation of "accessing a port of a host system by a satellite system to monitor a parameter for a predetermined event related to the host system." Therefore, applicants submit that claim 1 is patentable over the cited reference. Claims 2 – 6 and 42 each depend either directly or indirectly from, and therefore include the limitations of independent claim 1. Therefore, claims 2 – 6 and 42 are patentable over Fox.

For reasons similar to those given above in regards to claim 1, it is submitted that claims 20 – 24 and 45 are patentable over Fox.

Independent claim 7 recites:

> A method, comprising:
> *monitoring a host system for a parameter corresponding to a predetermined event*;
> generating, by a monitoring operations center, a notification upon an occurrence of the predetermined event to a first person in a hierarchy; and
> escalating, by the monitoring operations center, the notification to a second person in the hierarchy when the first person fails to acknowledge the notification in a time period, wherein the parameter is monitored using a satellite system located locally to the host system and wherein the notification is generated remotely from the host system. (emphasis added)

Independent claim 15 recites:

> A method, comprising:
> *monitoring a host system for a parameter corresponding to a predetermined event*;
> generating, by a monitoring operations center, a notification upon an occurrence of the predetermined event to a first person in the hierarchy;

escalating, by the monitoring operations center, the notification to a second person in the hierarchy when the first person fails to acknowledge the notification in a time period; and

generating, by the monitoring operations center, a trouble ticket at a predetermined point in the hierarchy to track the escalation. (emphasis added)

Independent claim 19 recites:

A method, comprising:

monitoring a host system for a parameter corresponding to a predetermined event;

generating, by a monitoring operations center, a notification upon an occurrence of the predetermined event to a first person in a hierarchy;

escalating, by the monitoring operations center, the notification to a second person in the hierarchy when the first person fails to acknowledge the notification in a time period; and

determining an asset parameter of the host system. (emphasis added)

Independent claim 25 recites:

A machine readable medium having stored thereon instructions, which when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform the following:

monitoring a host system for a parameter corresponding to a predetermined event;

generating a notification upon the occurrence of the predetermined event to a first person in a hierarchy; and

escalating the notification to a second person in the hierarchy when the first person fails to acknowledge the notification in a time period, wherein the processor further performs generating a trouble ticket at a predetermined point in the hierarchy to track the escalation. (emphasis added)

Independent claim 26 recites:

An apparatus, comprising:

means for monitoring a host system for a parameter corresponding to a predetermined event;

means for generating a notification upon the occurrence of the predetermined event to a first person in a hierarchy; and

means for escalating the notification to a second person in the hierarchy when the first person fails to acknowledge the notification in a time period. (emphasis added)

Independent claim 29 recites:

An apparatus comprising:
means for monitoring a host system for a parameter corresponding to a predetermined event;
means for generating a notification upon the occurrence of the predetermined event to a first person in a hierarchy;
means for escalating the notification to a second person in the hierarchy when the first person fails to acknowledge the notification in a time period; and
means for generating a trouble ticket at a predetermined point in the hierarchy to track the escalation. (emphasis added)

As discussed above, Fox's system monitors ground system log files for anomalies, and not the spacecraft system itself. (Fox, page 326, paragraphs 5 – 6). That is, Fox logs events in a separate system that is not located on the spacecraft. There is no disclosure in Fox about monitoring the spacecraft directly or any log files located on the spacecraft. As discussed above, the spacecraft of Fox is not accessed by the SERS.

The monitoring method of Fox is different than what is provided in claims 7, 15, 19, 25, 26, and 29. In contrast, claims 7, 15, 19, 25, 26, and 29 each include the limitation of "monitoring a host system for a parameter corresponding to a predetermined event." As such, applicant respectfully submits that claims 7, 15, 19, 25, 26, and 29 are not anticipated by Fox under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and request removal of the rejection.

Claims 8 – 14 and 43 each depend either directly or indirectly from independent claim 7. Claims 16 – 18 and 44 each depend either directly or indirectly from independent claim 15. Claims 27 – 28 each depend either directly or indirectly from independent claim 26. As such, each of these dependent claims includes the limitation of "monitoring a host system for a parameter corresponding to a predetermined event."

Accordingly, claims 8 – 14, 16 – 18, 27 – 28, 43, and 44 are not anticipated by Fox under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and request removal of the rejection.

Independent claim 30 recites:

> An apparatus, comprising:
> *a configuration portal to interface with a satellite system and configure an event for a parameter of a host system*;
> a digital processing system coupled to the portal, the digital processing system to receive data indicative of an occurrence of the event and generate a first notification; and
> a notification gateway coupled to the digital processing system to transmit the first notification to a first communication device, the digital processing system to generate a second notification to a second communication device if an acknowledgment is not received within a predetermined time.   (emphasis added)

Independent claim 34 recites:

> A system, comprising:
> a host satellite system coupled to a first network;
> a plurality of communication devices; and
> a monitoring operations center coupled to the first network, the monitoring operations center comprising:
> *a configuration portal to interface with a satellite system and configure an event for a parameter of a host system*;
> a digital processing system coupled to the portal, the digital processing system to receive data indicative of an occurrence of the event on the first network and generate a first notification; and
> a notification gateway coupled to the digital processing system to transmit the first notification to one of the plurality of communication devices, the digital processing system to generate a second notification to another of the plurality of communication devices if an acknowledgment is not received within a predetermined time. (emphasis added)

As discussed above, Fox's system monitors <u>ground</u> system log files for anomalies, and not the spacecraft system itself. (Fox, page 326, paragraphs 5 – 6).

In particular, Fox includes the following disclosure:

In SERS, an "event" is defined as a condition that merits the attention of the Spacecraft Control Team (SCT) and that may require some human intervention. . . . The SCT defines the items of interest over the Web by completing forms that define the elements of interest in the log file. These are known as filters. The SCT then defines the criteria for those filters that will trigger an alert, provide contextual information, or inhibit an alert notification.

(Fox, pages 326 – 327, paragraphs 7 – 10)

As such, it appears the SCT interacts with the SERS to define events for triggering notification. There appears to be no disclosure in Fox about a configuration portal to interface with a system other than the SERS. The system of Fox is different than what is provided in claims 30 and 34. In contrast, 30 and 34 each include the limitation of "a configuration portal to interface with a satellite system and configure an event for a parameter of a host system." As such, applicant respectfully submits that claims 30 and 34 are not anticipated by Fox under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and request removal of the rejection.

Claims 31 – 33 each depend either directly or indirectly from independent claim 30. Claims 35 – 37 each depend either directly or indirectly from independent claim 34. As such, each of these dependent claims includes the limitation of "a configuration portal to interface with a satellite system and configure an event for a parameter of a host system." Accordingly, claims 31 – 33 and 35 – 37 are not anticipated by Fox under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and request removal of the rejection.

In conclusion, applicants respectfully submit that in view of the arguments set forth herein, the applicable rejections have been overcome.
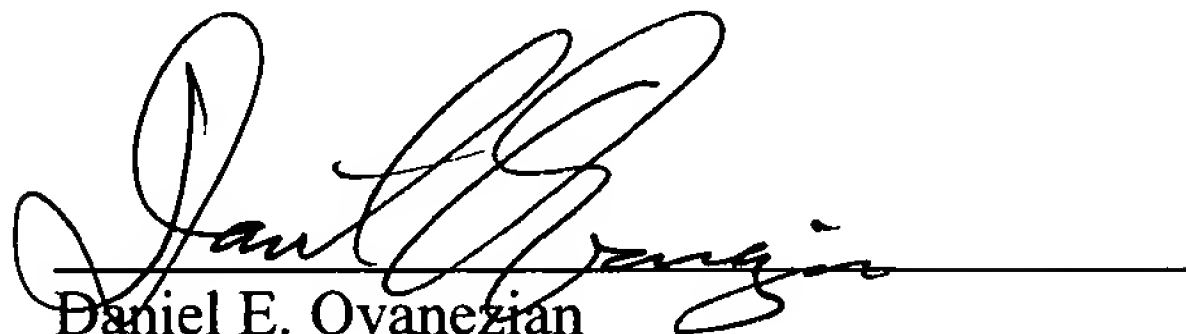
If the Examiner believes a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Daniel Ovanezian at (408) 720-8300.

If there are any additional charges, please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: ___6/23___, 2005

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